

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

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Tsuyoshi Oda

Serial No.

09/474,479

Filed

December 29, 1999

For

PICTURE ENCODING METHOD, PICTURE ENCODING APPARATUS AND PICTURE

RECORDING MEDIUM

Examiner

Anand Shashikant Rao

Art Unit

2613

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 30, 2004, please amend the above-

referenced application as follows:

09/01/2004 MAHNED1 00000030 09474479

02 FC:1252

420.00 OP

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